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Builth Rural District Council

Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1963

Officials.

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Public Health Inspector.....J.C.Bowen,M.A.P.H.I.,
Inspector of Meat and other Foods C.R.S.I.,
M.R.I.P.H.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector..J.R.M.Walker,M.A.P.H.I.,
M.R.S.H.

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Builth Rural District Council

Report of the Medical Officer of Health

1963

Mr.Chairman,Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the sanitary conditions and the state of the public health in the Builth Rural District during the year 1963.

In the preparation of this report I have endeavoured to deal briefly with all matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine and I have included comments on all the subjects specifically requested in Circular 1/64 (Wales) by the Welsh Board of Health.

Section 1. General and Vital Statistics.

Area.....125,944 acres.

Live Births.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Crude Rate per 1000 Pop.
Legitimate	26.	24.	50.	
Illegitimate	3.	1.	4.	
	29.	25.	54.	16.6

The corrected birthrate was 19.4
The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 18.2
The district rate was therefore higher than the national average and also higher that the district death rate.

Illegitimate Births. Four illegitimate births were registered during the year.

Deaths.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Crude Rate per 1000 Pop.
	20.	27.	47.	14.5

The corrected deathrate was 14.6
The rate for the whole of England and Wales was 12.2. The district rate was therefore higher than the national average but lower than the district birth rate.

Still Births.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Rate per 1000 live&still births
	0.	0.	0.	0.

Total still birth rate for whole of England and Wales was 17.3

Infantile Deaths. There were three deaths registered in children of under one year of age giving a rate of 55.5. One of these died when under 1 week old and another when under 4 weeks.
The national average rate per 1000 live births was 20.9

Population.

Census 1931.....4426.
Census 1951.....3502.
Census 1961.....3204.
Estimated Midsummer 1963.....3240.

The Registrar General's estimated population for the last ten years.

1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.	1963.
3500.	3490.	3490.	3390.	3360.	3330.	3340.	3200.	3270.	3240.

Maternal Deaths. No deaths occurred which could be attributed to childbirth. This is a very satisfactory feature.

Maternal Mortality Rate.....Nil.

Deaths from Special Causes.

Infectious disease.....Nil.
Respiratory tuberculosis.....Nil.
Other tuberculous disease.....Nil.
Cancer.....Eight.

Number of Inhabited Houses. This numbers 1079 giving an average number of persons per house of 3.0

Analysis of Causes of Deaths. Males.....20. Females....27.

	Males.	Females.
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	0.
Malignant neoplasm, lung	2	0.
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	1.
Other malignant neoplasms	2	2.
Diabetes	1	0.
Vascular lesions, nervous system	3	4.
Coronary disease	1	2.
Other heart disease	4	11.
Other circulatory disease	0	3.
Pneumonia	2	0.
Bronchitis	2	0.
Congenital malformations	1	0.
Other defined causes	0	3.
Accidents, not motor vehicle	0	1.
Suicide	1	0.

Section 2. General Provisions of Health Services.

Public Health Officers. Mr. J.C. Bowen remained as your Public Health Inspector, whilst on 1st. January, Mr. J.R.M. Walker commenced as additional Public Health Inspector.

Laboratory Facilities. During the year laboratory facilities were available at Cardiff, Newport, Carmarthen, Swansea, Aberystwyth, Brecon and Shrewsbury. All water and milk samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory for the County at Carmarthen, whilst any investigation required in the control of infectious disease was performed by the same laboratory. Owing to the discontinuance of the rail service between Builth Road and Carmarthen, samples are now taken by car.

Nursing and other facilities. The County Council is responsible for the provision of the ambulance and home nursing services. The County also administers the maternity and child welfare clinics where treatment is available for minor ailments, dental, eye and orthopaedic defects. Immunisation against diphtheria is also carried out at these clinics.

Hospitals. The hospital needs of the residents of the district for all diseases apart from infectious disease, are provided by the Builth Hospital. The arrangements for the treatment of infectious disease remain the same as in previous years. Merthyr Borough Council treat the patients from the district suffering from infectious disease and these are conveyed to Merthyr in ambulances maintained by Merthyr Borough Council. These arrangements are proving extremely satisfactory.

For the treatment of cases of smallpox arrangements have been made by the Welsh Board of Health for beds to be available at the Penrhys Hospital, Rhondda.

Builth Rural District Council

Section 3. Sanitary Circumstances.

Water Supplies. Water supplies to the district are now administered by the Builth and District Water Board.

During the year, 53 properties were connected to the mains for the first time.

As suggested in Circular 1/62 (Wales) the following information is available.

(a) Public Water Supply.

Parish	Piped into house		Piped to House Curtilage		Served by standpipes	
	No.	Persons supplied	No.	Persons supplied	No.	Persons supplied
Alltmawr	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crickadarn	16	48	0	0	0	0
Gwarafog	2	6	0	0	0	0
Gwenddwr	29	87	1	3	5	15
Llanafanfawr	22	66	0	0	0	0
Llanafanfechan	18	54	0	0	5	15
Llandewi's Abergwesyn	0	0	0	0	0	0
Llandewi'r Cwm	87	261	8	24	0	0
Llandulas	0	0	0	0	0	0
Llanfiangel Abergwesyn	2	6	0	0	0	0
Llanfihangel Brynpabuan	9	27	0	0	0	0
Llanganten	57	171	0	0	1	3
Llangynog	2	6	0	0	0	0
Llanlleonfel	14	42	0	0	0	0
Llanwrthwl	44	132	0	0	0	0
Llanwrtyd Without	1	3	0	0	0	0
Llanynis	1	3	0	0	0	0
Llysdinam	4	12	1	3	0	0
Maesmynis	4	12	0	0	10	30
Penbuallt	71	213	3	9	17	51
Rhosferig	7	21	0	0	0	0
Treflis	50	150	4	12	2	6

b. Private Water Supply

	Piped into house		Piped to House Curtilage		Served by Standpipes	
	No.	Persons supplied	No.	Persons supplied	No.	Persons supplied
Alltmawr	4	12	0	0	0	0
Crickadarn	39	117	5	15	0	0
Gwarafog	12	36	0	0	0	0
Gwenddwr	46	138	3	9	1	3
Llanafanfawr	37	111	5	15	0	0
Llanafanfechan	6	18	1	3	0	0
Llandewi Abergwesyn	5	15	0	0	0	0
Llandulas	34	102	0	0	0	0
Llandewi'r Cwm	16	48	0	0	0	0
Llanfiangel Abergwesyn	20	60	6	18	0	0
Llanfiangel Brynpabuan	13	39	2	6	0	0
Llanganten	5	15	2	6	0	0
Llangynog	3	9	0	0	0	0
Llanlleonfel	8	24	0	0	0	0
Llanwrthwl	24	72	4	12	0	0
Llanwrtyd Without	24	72	0	0	0	0
Llanynis	20	60	1	3	0	0
Llysdinam	23	69	3	9	0	0
Maesmynis	13	39	1	3	0	0
Penbuallt	20	60	0	0	0	0
Rhosferig	10	30	0	0	0	0
Treflis	28	84	3	9	0	0

Water Samples.

Public Supplies. The number of samples from public supplies sent for bacteriological examination was 64. Of these 38 were reported as satisfactory and 26 as unsatisfactory. In addition 36 samples were taken from private sources and private proposed supplies. 16 were reported as satisfactory and 20 as unsatisfactory.

There was a steady demand for the sampling of proposed farm supplies comprising improvement schemes under the Hill Farming Act, 1946, and a considerable amount of advice was given on the selection and protection of various proposed schemes.

Two further samples were chemically analysed. One samples showed the presence of 0.038 p.p.m. free fluorine.

Number of visits to water supplies.....9.
General visits in connection with water supplies.....32.

Builth Rural District Council

Drainage and Sewerage. Work on the Beulah sewerage scheme commenced during the year, whilst the Garth and Cefngorwydd schemes were approved. When these are completed all the villages in the district will have adequate sewerage schemes.

Water Closets		Chemical Closets		Pail Closets		Privies		Connect to					
								Council Sewer		Private Sewer		Septic Tank	
No. Houses	%	No. Houses	%	No. Houses	%	No. Houses	%	No. Houses	%	No. Houses	%	No. Houses	%
481	42.2	69	6.2	334	29.3	255	22.3	208	18.2	39	3.5	230	20.1
520	45.2	66	5.7	315	27.4	249	21.7	221	19.2	39	3.5	256	22.2
546	47.5	61	5.3	296	23.7	247	21.5	222	19.2	39	3.5	281	24.4
5.9	52.3	55	4.8	272	23.7	232	19.0	231	19.0	39	3.39	321	28.0

In connection with the above figures, the first line relates to the year 1960, the second to the year 1961, the third to the year 1962 and the fourth to the year 1963.
Forty septic tanks were installed during the year.

Public Cleansing. A joint collection scheme, prepared by your Public Health Inspector and including the adjoining rural district of Colwyn and the urban district of Llanwrtyd continued in operation during the year.

Number of visits made to refuse tips.....25.
Number of general visits in connection with refuse.....19.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area. The sanitary inspection of the area was undertaken by your Public Health Inspector, Mr. J.C. Bowen, and the details of this report concerning visits, samples and inspections give information relating to the work of the Public Health Inspector during the year.

Nuisances.
Number of complaints received.....7.
Number of complaints investigated.....7.

Common Lodging Houses. There are no common lodging houses in the district.

Offensive Trades. There are no offensive trades in the district.

Licensed Premises.
Number of visits made by Public Health Inspector .....2.
Number of notices served (informal).....0.

In recent years a considerable amount of work has been carried out by the Brewery Companies to the Licensed Premises in the district. Only two were not provided with a water closet.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.
Number of visits.....15.
Two new sites are approved, one at Aberduhonw for 5 caravans and one at Cwrt Gwenddwr for 1 caravan. An application was received for a site at Cilmerry for both holiday and residential caravans.

Shops Acts.
Number of inspections made.....2.
Number of notices served.....0.

Camping Sites. There are two recognised camping sites in the district. One at Cilmery and one at Elan Valley. No new sites were approved during the year. Action is being taken in connection with unauthorised siting of caravans on various sites.

Builth Wells Rural District

Eradication of Bed Bugs and Steps taken to combat infestation.

No premises were found to be infested with bed bugs during the year.

Rodent Control.
Number of premises inspected as a result of;
(a)Notification.....7.
(b)Survey.....17.
(c)Otherwise.....2.
Total inspections carried out.....136.
Number of properties infested by;
(a) Rats - Major....2. Minor....20.
(b) Mice - Major....0. Minor.....6.

Number of premises treated by Local Authority.....26.
Number of "Block" control carried out.....Nil.

Sewer treatments were carried out.Ten per cent of manholes in each scheme were baited and there was no bait takes in any.
All dead rats and mice are buried.

Legal Proceedings. No legal action was taken by the Council during the year.

Section 4. Housing.Plans were prepared for the building of 4 houses at Cefngorwydd.The schemes at Llangammarch and Beulah were well on the way to completion.

Number of houses built by private enterprise during the year.....8.
Number of houses built by private enterprise since the war.....29.
Number of Council houses built since the war.....74.
Number of private houses under construction at end of year.....1.

Improvement Grants.
Number of applications for improvement grants.
(a)Discretionary.....4.
(b)Standard.....7.
All these applications were approved except one which is delayed at request of applicant.

Rural Housing Survey.Extracts from this survey have been used in this report and the following summaries are also interesting.In the classification of houses the following definitions must be borne in mind.

Category 1. Satisfactory in all respects.
Category 2. With minor defects only.
Category 3. Requiring repair,structural alteration or improvement and which it is considered can be carried out at a reasonable cost in relation to the value of the property.
Category 4. Appropriate for reconditioning,improvement or extension, this is generally when a considerable amount of work is required but where it would be unreasonable to force owner to do the work because value of house does not warrant it.
Category 5. Unfit for human habitation and beyond repair at reasonable cost.

Builth Rural District Council

Classification of Houses

Cat.1		Cat.2		Cat.3		Cat.4		Cat.5	
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
264	23.1	106	9.3	487	42.9	187	16.4	95	8.3
294	25.6	107	9.3	468	40.7	185	16.1	95	8.3
314	27.3	114	9.9	448	39.0	181	15.7	93	8.1
322	28.2	154	13.4	412	36.0	173	15.1	83	7.25

In connection with the above figures,the first line relates to the year 1960,the second to the year 1961,the third to the year 1962 and the fourth to the year 1963.

Other Amenities as shown by Rural Housing Survey

Fixed Bath		Sink		Hot water installed		Electricity,Mains or own plant	
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
407	35.7	759	66.6	448	39.3	600	52.6
445	41.7	788	74.8	485	45.4	686	64.3
471	44.2	814	71.4	511	47.9	731	63.6
518	45.2	847	74.0	553	49.9	743	64.9

In connection with the above figures,the first line relates to the year 1960,the second to the year 1961,the third to the year 1962 and the fourth to the year 1963.

Housing Consolidated Regulations. Fourteen properties were closed as a result of formal action under Housing Act,1957.

Number of houses inspected under Building Byelaws.....62.
Number of houses made fit after formal action.....43

Section 5. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk.
Record of Inspections and Milk Testing.

Number of inspections of vehicles.....3.
Number of samples taken and were satisfactory.....5.

Since the coming into operation of the Milk & Dairies Act,1944, the Council is left with the registration and supervision of distributors.

Meat.There is no slaughterhouse in the district and all meat is supplied to the district direct from the slaughterhouse in Colwyn Rural District.

Ice Cream Premises.There are 9 retailers of ice cream in the district. Also sold by mobile van.
Number of inspections.....9.
Number of notices.....Nil.
Number of samples.....9.
Five of these were placed in Grade 1,whilst four others were unsuitable for examination.

Food Premises. The following food premises remained in operation at the end of the year.

Grocers.....17.(Seven supplying ice cream)
Public houses and hotels.....10.
Dairies.....3.
Cafes.....1.
Market Halls.....1.

The district is also served by various mobile retailers operating from Builth Wells,Llandrindod Wells and Newbridge.

Food Preparation Rooms.
Number of visits.....7.
Number of notices.....Nil.

Educational Activities.There were no edicational activities during the year.

Section 6. Prevalence and Control of Infectious Disease.

Two cases of measles were notified during the year.Both were nursed at home. No deaths occurred as a result of infectious disease.

Venereal Disease.The County Council has an agreement with the General and Eye Hospital,Swansea for the treatment of these cases.The tracing of contacts and the following up of defaulters is the responsibility of the County Council.

Tuberculosis.The following details show the position as regards tuberculosis in recent years.

Number of cases on register at commencement of year.....14.
Number of fresh cases added during the year.....2.
Number of deaths during the year.....0.
Number of cases removed as recovered.....1.
Number of cases which left district.....1.
Number of cases left on register at end of year.....14.

The number of notifications in recent years is shown below.

1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.	1963.
4.	3.	4.	2.	2.	1.	0.	2.	2.	2.

APPENDIX

Factories Acts,1937 to 1959

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OR THE YEAR 1963 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF BUILTH IN THE COUNTY OF BRECONSHIRE.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1937

Builth Rural District Council

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
i. Factories in which Sections 1, 2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
ii. Factories not included in(i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	10	5	-	-
iii. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority(excluding out-workers' premises	-	-	-	-
Total	10	5	-	-

2.- CASES in which DEFECTS were found
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two,three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two,three or more cases.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred: To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred: By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of cleanliness S.1	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding(S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature(S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors(S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a)Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b)Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c)Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act(not including offences relating to outwork	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

No outwork was done in the district during the year.

Yours faithfully,

T.C.R.George,

Medical Officer of Health